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CLAIMS

1. (After Amendment)

A video display system comprising a server for distributing images and a plurality of display devices capable of communicating with each other, ~~wherein one~~ each of said display devices comprising:

a first communication interface for bidirectional communication with said server or another display device located at upstream side on a image distribution path;

a second communication interface for bidirectional communication with one of the other display devices located at downstream side on the image distribution path;

a third communication interface for bidirectional communication with a user terminal;

a storage unit for storing images received from said server or said another display device at upstream side;

a display unit for displaying said received images; and

a processing unit coupled to said first, second and third communication interfaces, said storage unit and said display unit,

said user terminal comprising:

a communication interface for bidirectional communication with said display devices;

a display unit smaller in size than that of the display device; and

an input unit for accepting input from a user,

wherein each of said display devices receives an image from said server or said another display device at upstream side through said first communication interface, transmits the received image to said one of the other display devices at downstream side through said second communication interface according to a request from said server or said one of the other display devices at downstream side, and transmits the received image to said user terminal through said third communication interface according to a request from the user terminal.

2. (After Amendment)

The video display system according to claim 1, wherein a communication frequency between said server and the first communication interface of each of said display devices is higher than a communication frequency between the second communication interface of each of said display devices and the communication interface of said user terminal.

3. (After Amendment)

A video displaying system comprising a plurality of display devices capable of communicating with each other,

each of said display devices comprising:

a first communication interface for bidirectional communication with one of the other display devices of the

plurality of said display devices;

a second communication interface for bidirectional communication with a user terminal;

a storage unit for storing images;

a display unit for displaying an image; and

a processing unit coupled to said first and second communication interfaces, said storage unit and said display unit,

wherein said processing unit performs, through said first communication interface in time division manner, receiving processing of an image distributed from another display device located at upstream side on a image distribution path and forwarding processing of the received image to one of the other display devices located at downstream side on the image distribution path,

said user terminal comprising:

a communication interface for bidirectional communication with said display devices;

a display unit smaller in size than that of the display device; and

an input unit for accepting input from a user,

wherein a communication frequency between the first communication interfaces of said display devices is higher than a communication frequency between the second communication interface of each of said display devices and the communication

interface of said user terminal.

4. (After Amendment)

A video displaying system comprising a server for distributing images and a plurality of display devices capable of communicating with each other,

each of said display devices comprising:

a first communication interface for bidirectional communication with said server or a first one the plurality of said display devices;

a second communication interface for bidirectional communication with a second one of the plurality of said display devices;

a storage unit for storing images received from said server or said first one of said display devices;

a display unit for displaying said received images; and

a processing unit coupled to said first and second communication interfaces, said storage unit and said display unit,

wherein said processing unit stores images received from said first communication interface into said storage unit, and forward the received images to the second one of said display devices through said second communicating interfaces,

wherein a communication frequency between the first communication interface of each of said display devices and

said server or the first one of said display deices is different from a communication frequency between the second communication interface of each of said display devices and the second one of said display devices.

5. (After Amendment)

A video display device for bidirectional communication with a image distribution server or other video display devices, comprising:

an image storage unit;

an image display unit;

a first communication interface for communicating with said server or other video display devices;

a second communication interface for communicating with a user terminal; and

a processing for storing images transmitted from said server or said another video display device and received through said first communication interface into said storage unit and forwarding images read out from said storage unit to said display unit,

said user terminal comprising:

a communication interface for bidirectional communication with the video display device;

a display unit smaller in size than that of the video display device; and

an input unit for accepting input from a user,

wherein a communication frequency for said first communication interface is higher than that for said second communication interface.

6. (After Amendment)

The video display device according to claim 5, wherein:

said first communication interface comprises a third communication interface capable of communication with said server or another video display device located at upstream side along a distribution path of said images, and a fourth communication interface for transmitting said images to one of other video display devices located at downstream side along the distribution path of said images,

said storage unit stores an identifier of said downstream side video display device, and

said processing unit establishes communication with said downstream side video display device through said fourth interface according to the identifier stored in said storage unit.

7. (After Amendment)

The video display device according to claim 6, wherein:

said images are received together with an identifier of a destination video display device,

said processing unit compares its own identifier and the identifier of said destination video display device, transmits images including an identifier not matching with its own identifier to said downstream side video display device through said fourth interface, and removes the images including the identifier not matching with its own identifier from said storage unit.

8. (After Amendment)

The video display device according to claim 5, wherein:

said first communication interface comprises a third communication interface for communication with said server or another video display device located at upstream side along a distribution path of said images, and a fourth communication interface for communication with one of the other video display devices located at downstream side along the distribution path of said images, and

a frequency for said third communication interface is different from that for said fourth communication interface.

9. (After Amendment)

The video display device according to claim 5, wherein:

said first communication interface receives a first image to be displayed on said display unit and a second image to be displayed on said user terminal from said server or said another

video display device,

upon receiving a request from said user terminal through said second communication interface, said processing unit identifies a second image received together with the first image which was displayed on said display unit at a point of time when the request was received, and transmits the identified second image to said user terminal through said second communication interface.

10. The video display device according to claim 9, wherein the contents of said second image are related to the contents of said first image.

11. (After Amendment)

The video display device according to claim 5, wherein:

when said second communication interface receives a request from said user terminal, said processing unit scales down the image being displayed on said display unit at a point of time when the request has been received from said user terminal, and transmits the image scaled down to said user terminal through said second communication interface.

12. (After Amendment)

A video display device for displaying images received from a server for distributing images or another video display

device located at upstream side along a distribution path of said images and transmitting the received images to one of other video display devices located at downstream side along the distribution path of said images, comprising:

a first communication interface for receiving, from said server or said another video display device at upstream side, destination information including an identifier of a destination video display device specified by said server;

a second communication interface for requesting the surrounding other video display devices to send their device identifiers and receiving response information indicating identifiers of video display devices in operation; and

a determination unit which compares the identifier indicated in said destination information received through said first communication interface and the device identifiers indicated in said response information received through said second communication interface, and decides a video display device in operation, which has a device identifier matched with the identifier indicated in said destination information, as a destination of the received image.

13. The video display device according to claim 12, wherein:

said second communication interface establishes communication with said downstream video display device, and

when said second communication interface has established

communication with said downstream video display device, said first communication interface notifies said server or said upstream video display device of communication established between the video display device and the downstream video display device.

14. The video display device according to claim 12, further comprising a third communication interface for communication with a user terminal.